

From: Walker, Greg
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 11/29/01 3:08pm
Subject: anti competition

As a Sr. Software Engineer at the Bell+Howell PSC division and user of both Microsoft, Linux and apple operating systems I would like to voice my displeasure with the proposed Microsoft vs. The States anti-trust settlement framework.

The reasons that I think this settlement does harm to the consumer is because the education area is one of the last bastions of free choice when it comes to the type of computer and operating system that a student can choose, and it is not out of coincidence that this is one of the markets that Apple computer still effectively competes with Microsoft. This settlement will in effect force Apple Computer out of the Education market and give Microsoft more of a monopoly in education. If you look at the full Microsoft product line how many of the products are for the Windows operating system only compared to the programs that will run on a Apple operating system. Also of the products that support both platforms compare the feature set of each. In both of these cases you will see that the software that works with the Windows operating system has a better feature set.

In closing I would just like to says that this settlement is counter productive to the Nation, Educational Institutions and Consumers.

Greg Walker
Sr. Network Software Engineer
Bell+Howell Publishing Services "A ProQuest Company"
20 years in the computer field.